

**PURPOSE**

To assure consistency across the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) hospitals regarding the reporting of patient deaths as required by Public Act 318 of 2020.

**DEFINITIONS****Hospital**

An inpatient program operated by MDHHS for the treatment of individuals with serious mental or serious emotional disturbance.

**Office of Recipient Rights (ORR)**

The office created by the Michigan Mental Health Code (MMHC) which is subordinate only to the director and which is responsible for investigating, resolving, and assuring remediation of apparent, suspected, or substantiated rights violations and assuring that mental health services are provided by the department in a manner which respects and promotes the rights of recipients as guaranteed by Chapter 7 and 7A of the MMHC, PA 258 of 1974 as amended.

**POLICY**

Upon the death of a patient, including deaths which occurred within 48 hours of discharge, hospitals must complete a MDHHS-5949, Notification of Patient Death and submit it to the Office of Recipient Rights (ORR) at [mdhhs-recipientrights@michigan.gov](mailto:mdhhs-recipientrights@michigan.gov) with *Report of death* in the email subject line. The following documents must be attached to the email:

- The patient's admission history and physical.
- The patient's (medical/psychiatric) discharge summary.
- Any transfer summaries.
- Any completed reviews of death.

**CONTACT**

For more information, contact ORR or the State Hospital Administration.

**REFERENCES**

[APF 170, Incident Reporting](#)

[MDHHS-5949, Notification of Patient Death](#)

[Public Act 318 of 2020](#)

[MCL 330.1720](#)

[MCL 330.1721](#)